



Col. Russel D. Santala, Europe Region Transformation Group (Nordbayern) (Provisional) commander and Command. Sgt. Maj. Ralph Ford roll up the ETG colors before casing them in front of Mr. Russell Hall, director, Installation Management

Photos by Scott Rouch
ETG Public Affairs Office

TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY

WUERZBURG, Germany -- The Europe Region Transformation Group (Nord Bayern) (Provisional), known as the ETG, transferred its reporting authority and responsibilities to U.S. Army Garrisons Ansbach, Bamberg and Schweinfurt on April 4 at ceremonies in Franconia Park on Wuerzburg's Leighton Barracks.

“This ceremony recognizes the 60-year history of U.S. Army garrison operations in Wuerzburg,” said ETG commander Col. Russel D. Santala .

“Our successes have been achieved in partnership with our host nation friends, most notably the government of Lower Franconia, Wuerzburg county, and the crown jewels of Lower Franconia – the beautiful communities of Wuerzburg, Kitzingen and Giebelstadt,” Santala said. “You have provided a wonderful environment for the members of U.S. forces and have created lifetime memories for thousands of American Soldiers and their families.”

“Today’s transfer of authority brings Ansbach, Bamberg and Schweinfurt garrisons in line with other direct report garrisons,” said Russell B. Hall, director of Installation Command Europe. In so doing, we are taking another step toward achieving the standard garrison structure now used throughout the Army.”

“This organization (the ETG) has been a stabilizing element for many people during a sea of change and Army transformation over the years, providing unparalleled basic support operations to hundreds of thousands of Soldiers, civilians and family members stationed in Lower Franconia,” Hall added.

Wuerzburg was first designated an Army post within the 1st Military District in 1947, along with the arrival of the first family members into the area. Since then the garrison has been reorganized nine times and had such distinctions as the Wuerzburg Military District, the Franconia District, the U.S. Military Community Activity-Wuerzburg, the Marneland Area Support Group, the 98th Area Support Group, USAG-Franconia and the ETG.